

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10  
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 OIC-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AF-10  
ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-11 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 L-03  
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /137 W  
-----043549 081706Z /46

R 081635Z MAY 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9324  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 06990

E.O. 11652 GDS  
TAGS: ILO, ELAB, PORT  
SUBJECT: US-ILO RELATIONS: APPLICATIONS OF CONVENTIONS

REF: STATE 116109

FROM AMBASSADOR VANDEN HEUVEL

1. I MET WITH ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL BLANCHARD THIS MORNING REGARDING REFTTEL. HE WAS SURPRISED AND DISAPPOINTED BY THE POSITION OF THE CLC WORKING PARTY GROUP REGARDING HIS RECOMMENDATION THAT THE COMMITTEE ON APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (CACR) REPORTS BE NOTED RATHER THAN SUBMITTED TO THE CONFERENCE FOR ACCEPTANCE OR REFUSAL. THE TWO BASIC REASONS FOR HIS RECOMMENDATION WERE (A) TO ELEVATE THE STATUS OF THE CACR REPORT TO A QUASI-JUDICIAL LEVEL THEREBY CAUSING THE FINDINGS TO BE SELF-EXECUTING AND (B) BECAUSE HE BELIEVED THIS RECOMMENDATION WOULD DO MUCH TO ARREST THE TREND WHICH THE US HAS CRITICIZED TO THE POLITIZATION OF THE ILO MACHINERY. HE POINTS OUT, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT MOST  
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COUNTRIES, WHEN SUBJECT TO CRITICISM IN A REPORT, ARE UNDER STRONG POLITICAL PRESSURE FROM THEIR CAPITALS TO REJECT THE REPORT. A POLITICAL PROCESS THEN BEGINS WHERE THE CRITICIZED COUNTRIES SEEK VOTES IN SUPPORT OF REJECTION

FROM MEMBERS POLITICALLY FRIENDLY TO THEM. BLANCHARD'S HOPE IS TO STRENGTHEN THE COMPLIANCE MACHINERY AND TO CAUSE

MEMBERS TO USE IT MORE FREQUENTLY. HE IS LEAVING FOR THE SOVIET UNION TOMORROW AND EXPECTS TO BE SEVERELY CRITICIZED IN MOSCOW FOR HIS RECOMMENDATION WHICH THEY REGARD AS DANGEROUS TO THEM. MY SENSE OF THE SITUATION IS THAT BLANCHARD IS PERPLEXED BY THE WORKING PARTY GROUP REACTION, HAVING UNDERTAKEN THE RISK OF A RECOMMENDATION IN THE HOPE OF REASSURING THE US AS TO HIS COMMITMENT TO STRENGTHENING THE COMPLIANCE MACHINERY.

2. BLANCHARD'S RECOMMENDATION IS ALREADY PART OF HIS REPORT TO THE CONFERENCE WHICH HAS JUST BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO THE MEMBER STATES. IN ORDER FOR THE RECOMMENDATION TO BECOME EFFECTIVE, IT MUST BE ADOPTED BY THE CACR AND THEN BY THE CONFERENCE. IF THE US PERSISTS IN ITS OPPOSITION TO THE RECOMMENDATION, HOWEVER, THE SECRETARIAT, IN MY OPINION, WILL NOT PRESS FOR ADOPTION. VANDEN HEUVEL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGS, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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